

From: Cline, Seth [SCline@usnews.com]
Sent: 3/8/2018 4:03:50 PM
To: Porter, Ford C [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=b78085a114554c8ba8f58bffaf3e6db0-fcporter]
Subject: [External] Re: US News inquiry

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Hey man,

My editors held the pipeline story for much longer than I thought, but it's up now:

<https://www.usnews.com/news/best-states/articles/2018-03-08/pipe-dreams-how-natural-gas-will-conquer-the-south>

You and Cooper only make a cameo but I appreciate the quick response all the same.

Btw I hung out with Bates on a recent DC trip. He seems good, living with a new gf, talking up Biden 2020. Hope all's well with you.

Thanks again,
Seth

From: Cline, Seth
Sent: Thursday, February 8, 2018 10:43 AM
To: Porter, Ford C
Subject: Re: US News inquiry

Thanks Ford, appreciate the quick turnaround. Will pass along a link when the story's published.

From: Porter, Ford C <Ford.Porter@nc.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 7, 2018 5:42:29 PM
To: Cline, Seth
Subject: US News inquiry

Seth,

Good talking to yesterday. The following is attributable to me, as spokesman:

"Governor Cooper wants to move North Carolina toward being 100% reliant on renewable energy. As we continue toward that goal, the ACP meets a vital energy need for our state and moves us away from coal fired power plants. DEQ conducted an 8-month review to craft a permit that protects our land and water. Governor Cooper has heard from local elected, business, and community leaders and is committed to ensuring an economic and environmental benefit to the communities where the pipeline is being constructed.

The mitigation fund will provide additional resources for environmental mitigation on top of what is required in the permit as well as investments in renewable energy and economic development in the counties along the pipeline.

As you've noted, Governor Cooper is strongly opposed to offshore drilling off North Carolina's coast. Drilling presents a critical threat to our environment and coastal economies, offering massive risk and little potential economic gain."

Thanks,

Ford

From: Cline, Seth [<mailto:SCline@usnews.com>]

Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 4:31 PM

To: Governor's Press Office <govpress@nc.gov>; Porter, Ford C <Ford.Porter@nc.gov>

Subject: [External] Re: U.S. News press inquiry

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Appreciate the quick response Ford.

Here are the questions I'd like to get on the record responses to if I can:

Why does Gov. Cooper support the ACP? Does he have any concerns? If so, what?

The governor is a vocal opponent of offshore drilling, how does he square that with his support of natural gas pipelines?

Has the governor spoken to the local stakeholders about the ACP, and if so what was his impression of those discussions and/or their concerns?

Whose idea was the escrow fund? How does the governor foresee those funds being used?

Even if all the current pipeline proposals are enacted, there's enough gas in the Marcellus shale that they'll fill up within a few years. So more pipelines will likely be built and proposed. Would the governor be open to more pipelines in North Carolina?

Thanks,
Seth

From: Cline, Seth

Sent: Tuesday, February 6, 2018 1:20:58 PM

To: govpress@nc.gov

Subject: U.S. News press inquiry

Hey Ford,

This is Seth Cline, we met at the PR back in 2016 through Andrew Bates. Hope all's well.

I'm working on a story on the Atlantic Coast Pipeline and natural gas generally. Any chance we could chat briefly to get the governor's side of things?

Happy to elaborate on the story idea, and flexible on both timing and the extent to which it's the record vs. off.

Let me know.

Thanks,

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